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Serial No. 10/045,653
Attorney Docket No. 40025.002

Conf. No.: 9868 03C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Michael Vyvoda et al.

Serial No.: 10/045,653

Filed: November 7, 2001

For: Metal Structures for Integrated Circuits

and Methods for Making the Same

Box DD

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Group Art Unit: 2812

Examiner: Unassigned

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO form 1449. This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before issuance of an Office Action on the merits.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231, on this 17th day of May 2002.

Signed:

Dated: 4/17/6

Serial No. 10/045,653

Attorney Docket No. 40025.002

Conf. No.: 9868

constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as "prior art" against any

claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute

"prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the

relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability

of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be

applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the

fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0013/40025-005.

Respectfully Submitted,

KENNETH E. HORTON

Reg. No. 39,481

Rader, Fishman & Grauer

Date: May 17, 2002

PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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Compl te if Known				
Application Number	10/045,653			
Filing Date	November 7, 2001			
First Named Inventor	Michael Vyvoda			
Art Unit	2812			
Examiner Name	Unassigned			
Attorney Docket Number	40025.002			

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials		Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	ļ	US- 4,811,082	03-07-1989	Jacobs et al.		
		US- 5,160,987	11-03-1992	Pricer et al.		
		US- 5,191,405	03-02-1993	Tomita et al.		
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		US- 5,985,693	11-16-1999	Leedy		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code 3 - Number 4 - Kind Code 5 (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T 6	
		EP 0 395 886 A2	11-07-1990	Oota et al.			

Examiner	-	Date	1	
Signature		Considered		
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Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English paragraph Translation is attached. English language Translation is attached.